Overtime paid to general duty staff under A.E. Traffic Telecommunication Ludhiana

845. SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHAMAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the amount of over-time paid to general duty staff under A.E. Traffic Telecommunications, Ludhiana during the last three years;

(b) whether Government have received any complaints in this regard; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and the action taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) to (c) The information has been called for from the concerned unit. The same will be placed on the Table of the House.

Telephone operators absorbed as clerks

846. SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of telephone operators absorbed as Clerks due to automation in the Ludhiana Telecom District;

(b) whether any policy has been laid down in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any complaints have been received in this connection; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof and the action taken by Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) 31.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) Change of cadre from Telephone Operator to Telecom Office Assistants is permitted under para 38 with the approval of Chief General Manager Telecom, Ambala.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) In view of reply at (d) the question does not arise.

Cost of post card and an inland letter

847. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY : SHRI SATISH PRADHAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the working costs of a post card and an inland letter;

(b) what is the amount of loss, Government incurs annually on these two articles;

(c) whether there is any proposal to abolish post card since the demand for same is not fully being met; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and also the reasons for shortages of post cards ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The working cost are as under :

Postcard—129.98 paise per unit.

Inland Letter—131.83 paise per unit.

(b) Position of loss is as under :

Postcard—Rs. 73.79 crores per annum

Inland Letter—Rs. 47.89 crores per annum.

(c) No, Sir. There is no shortage of post cards.

(c) No, Sir, There is no shortage of